

Sunday, June 24, 2018  
5th Sunday after Pentecost

PRELUDE

*"Come and Dine"*

Jeremy Howe

\*GATHERING SONG

*"Sing of the Lord's Goodness"* vs 1 & 2

Sing of the Lord's goodness,  
Father of all wisdom,  
come to him and bless his name.  
Mercy he has shown us,  
his love is forever,  
faithful to the end of days.  
Come, then, all you nations,  
sing of you Lord's goodness,  
praise, sing praise to God.  
Come and ring our the melodies  
of praise and thanks to God.  
Ring out the Lord's glory,  
praise him with your music,  
Worship him and bless his name.

Power he has wielded,  
honor is his garment,  
risen from the snares of death.  
His word he has spoken,  
one bread he has broken,  
new life he now gives to all.  
Come, then, all you nations,  
sing of you Lord's goodness,  
praise, sing praise to God.  
Come and ring our the melodies  
of praise and thanks to God.  
Ring out the Lord's glory,  
praise him with your music,  
Worship him and bless his name.

Come, then, all you nations,  
sing of you Lord's goodness,  
praise, sing praise to God.  
Come and ring our the melodies  
of praise and thanks to God.  
Ring out the Lord's glory,  
praise him with your music,  
Worship him and bless his name.

## \*GREETING

**P** *The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.*

**G** **And also with you.**

## \*PRAYER OF THE DAY

**P** *O God of creation,*

**G** **eternal majesty, you preside over land and sea, sunshine and storm. By your strength pilot us, by your power preserve us, by your wisdom instruct us, and by your hand protect us, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen!**

## FIRST READING

**Job 38:1-11**

*At the end of the book of Job, after Job and his companions have argued about the cause of the great suffering Job endures, God finally speaks. These verses begin that speech, which is a grand vision of creation, describing God's ordering of the cosmos and inviting Job to marvel at its beauty.*

<sup>1</sup>The LORD answered Job out of the whirlwind:

<sup>2</sup>“Who is this that darkens counsel by words without knowledge?

<sup>3</sup>Gird up your loins like a man,

I will question you, and you shall declare to me.

<sup>4</sup>“Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth?

Tell me, if you have understanding.

<sup>5</sup>Who determined its measurements—surely you know!

Or who stretched the line upon it?

<sup>6</sup>On what were its bases sunk,

or who laid its cornerstone

<sup>7</sup>when the morning stars sang together

and all the heavenly beings shouted for joy?

<sup>8</sup>“Or who shut in the sea with doors

when it burst out from the womb?—

<sup>9</sup>when I made the clouds its garment,

and thick darkness its swaddling band,

<sup>10</sup>and prescribed bounds for it,

and set bars and doors,

<sup>11</sup>and said, ‘Thus far shall you come, and no farther,

and here shall your proud waves be stopped?’”

## **Reflection**

*Finally God speaks in Job, after Job's questioning and his friends answer (inadequately). God does not give answers, but only asks questions. What are the questions that God asks of Job? (verses 2, 4, 5, 6, 8) What do you think it means for this text that God answers Job “out of the whirlwind”? (verse 1) Notice that this is another creation story, in some ways reminiscent of Genesis 1 (but also very different). To read this whole creation story, read through chapter 41. I think my favorite line in this text is verse 7. I imagine the morning stars singing together with all*

*the heavenly beings shouting for joy. What is your favorite? How does this text help you to comprehend the greatness of God?*

**PSALM 107:1-3, 23-32**

<sup>1</sup>Give thanks to the LORD, for the | LORD is good,  
for God's mercy en- | dures forever.

<sup>2</sup>**Let the redeemed of the | LORD proclaim  
that God redeemed them from the hand | of the foe,**

<sup>3</sup>gathering them in | from the lands;  
from the east and from the west, from the north and | from the south.

<sup>23</sup>**Some went down to the | sea in ships,  
plying their trade | in deep waters.**

<sup>24</sup>They beheld the works | of the LORD,  
God's wonderful works | in the deep.

<sup>25</sup>**Then God spoke, and a stormy | wind arose,  
which tossed high the waves | of the sea.**

<sup>26</sup>They mounted up to the heavens and descended | to the depths;  
their souls melted away | in their peril.

<sup>27</sup>They staggered and | reeled like drunkards,  
and all their skill was of | no avail.

<sup>28</sup>Then in their trouble they cried | to the LORD,  
and you delivered them from | their distress.

<sup>29</sup>**You stilled the storm | to a whisper  
and silenced the waves | of the sea.**

<sup>30</sup>Then were they glad when | it grew calm,  
when you guided them to the harbor | they desired.

<sup>31</sup>**Let them give thanks to you, LORD, for your | steadfast love  
and your wonderful works | for all people.**

<sup>32</sup>Let them exalt you in the assembly | of the people;  
in the council of the elders, let them sing | hallelujah!

**Reflection**

*This is one of my favorite psalms. What does the psalmist call on readers to do? (verses 1-3) What is the trouble that those in our text (verses 23-32) experienced? In the Hebrew scripture, the sea often represents chaos, and God taming the sea is an important idea in Hebrew theology. (Think of the crossing of the Red Sea and the escape from Egypt; Jonah, among others.) What happens to the sailors in our text? (verses 25-27) The poetry in these verses mimics the waves rising and falling, threatening to overcome the sailors. What do they do? (verse 28) How does God rescue them? (verse 29) What is their response? (verses 30-33) Have you ever been "lost at sea," either literally or figuratively? How did you experience God's salvation?*

## SECOND READING

## 2 Corinthians 6:1-13

*Paul and his fellow workers experience great hardships and even rejection while carrying out their missionary work. Nevertheless, Paul continuously proclaims that God has not rejected us but is graciously working for our salvation.*

<sup>1</sup>As we work together with him, we urge you also not to accept the grace of God in vain. <sup>2</sup>For he says,

“At an acceptable time I have listened to you,  
and on a day of salvation I have helped you.”

See, now is the acceptable time; see, now is the day of salvation! <sup>3</sup>We are putting no obstacle in anyone’s way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, <sup>4</sup>but as servants of God we have commended ourselves in every way: through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, <sup>5</sup>beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger; <sup>6</sup>by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, holiness of spirit, genuine love, <sup>7</sup>truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; <sup>8</sup>in honor and dishonor, in ill repute and good repute. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; <sup>9</sup>as unknown, and yet are well known; as dying, and see—we are alive; as punished, and yet not killed; <sup>10</sup>as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything.

<sup>11</sup>We have spoken frankly to you Corinthians; our heart is wide open to you. <sup>12</sup>There is no restriction in our affections, but only in yours. <sup>13</sup>In return—I speak as to children—open wide your hearts also.

### **Reflection**

*There are those who say that the best time to “get salvation” is right before you die, so you can enjoy the fruits of a sinful life. What does Paul say? (verses 1-3) In this text, Paul is defending his ministry (and that of his co-workers) against those who have said he is weak, or wishy-washy. How does Paul describe the work that he and others who preach the gospel have done? (verses 4-10) There are some of these descriptions that I have not experienced, but as I look back upon my life and ministry, some of what Paul says rings true to my experience. How do you see the work you have done? What is the “reward”? (verses 11-13) What is his hope?*

### **\*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

***“Alleluia! Give the Glory”***

**Alleluia! Alleluia!**  
**Alleluia!**  
**Give the glory**  
**and the honor**  
**to the Lord! (repeat)**

### **\*GOSPEL**

**Mark 4:35-41**

*Jesus’ calming of the storm on the sea reveals his power over evil, since the sea represents evil and chaos. The boat on the sea is a symbol of the church and invites us to trust God amid life’s turbulence.*

<sup>35</sup>When evening had come, [Jesus said to the disciples,] “Let us go across to the other side.”  
<sup>36</sup>And leaving the crowd behind, they took him with them in the boat, just as he was. Other boats were with him. <sup>37</sup>A great windstorm arose, and the waves beat into the boat, so that the boat was already being swamped. <sup>38</sup>But he was in the stern, asleep on the cushion; and they woke him up and said to him, “Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?” <sup>39</sup>He woke up and rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, “Peace! Be still!” Then the wind ceased, and there was a dead calm. <sup>40</sup>He said to them, “Why are you afraid? Have you still no faith?” <sup>41</sup>And they were filled with great awe and said to one another, “Who then is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?”

### **Reflection**

*A commentator in The Christian Century notes that “the other side” is literally unknown to the disciples. All the work of Jesus’ ministry until this point in Mark has been done on “this side” of the Sea of Galilee. (verses 35-36) What happens that shows the disciples the terror of going to “the other side”? (verse 37) For a description of how they must have felt, reread Psalm 107:23-27. Was Jesus afraid? (verse 38) What do the disciples do? (verse 38—see also Psalm 107:28) What does Jesus do? (verse 39 and Psalm 107:29) What is their response? (verse 41 and Psalm 107:30) I think it is likely that Mark (and all the disciples) were familiar with Psalm 107. Remember that Peter, Andrew, James and John had probably experienced storms before. Who is Jesus in this text? How have you experienced the calming presence of Jesus in the midst of the storms of life?*

### **CHILDREN’S MESSAGE**

Kris Langdon

### **SERMON**

*“Serving a Narrow Minded God”  
“Peace in the World”*

Rev. Roger Lenander

### **SONG OF THE DAY**

*“Here I Am, Lord”*

**ELW 574**

**"I, the Lord of sea and sky,  
I have heard my people cry.  
All who dwell in dark and sin  
my hand will save.  
I, who made the stars of night,  
I will make their darkness bright.  
Who will bear my light to them?  
Whom shall I send?"**

### **Refrain**

**Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?  
I have heard you calling in the night.  
I will go, Lord, if you lead me.  
I will hold your people in my heart.**

**"I, the Lord of snow and rain,  
I have borne my people's pain.**

I have wept for love of them.  
They turn away.  
I will break their hearts of stone,  
give them hearts for love alone.  
I will speak my word to them.  
Whom shall I send?" *Refrain*

"I, the Lord of wind and flame,  
I will tend the poor and lame.  
I will set a feast for them.  
My hand will save.  
Finest bread I will provide  
till their hearts be satisfied.  
I will give my life to them.  
Whom shall I send?" *Refrain*

**\*WELCOME NEW MEMBERS – Phil and Nancy Lewis**

**P** *Dear friends, we give thanks for the gift of baptism and for Phil and Nancy, one with us in the body of Christ, who are making public affirmation of their baptism.*

*Let us pray.*

*Merciful God, we thank you for this sister and brother, whom you have made your own by water and the Word in baptism. You have called them to yourself, enlightened them with the gifts of your Spirit, and nourished them in the community of faith. Uphold your servants in the gifts and promises of baptism, and unite the hearts of all whom you have brought to new birth. We ask this in the name of Christ.*

**C** **Amen!**

**P** *Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God?*

**C** **We renounce them.**

**P** *Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?*

**C** **We renounce them.**

**P** *Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?*

**C** **We renounce them.**

**P** *Do you believe in God the Father?*

**C** **I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**P** *Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?*

**C** **I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;**

**he descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**P** *Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?*

**C** **I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting.**

**P** *You have made public profession of your faith. Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in holy baptism:*

*to live among God's faithful people,  
to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper,  
to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed,  
to serve all people, following the example of Jesus,  
and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?*

**C** **We do, and we ask God to help and guide me.**

**P** *People of God, do you promise to support this sister and brother and pray for them in their life in Christ?*

**C** **We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.**

**P** *Let us rejoice with this sister and brother in Christ.*

**C** **We rejoice with you in the life of baptism.  
Together we will give thanks and praise to God  
and proclaim the good news to all the world.**

#### **\*PRAYER SONG**

#### **"Cares Chorus"**

**I cast all my cares upon You  
I lay all of my burdens  
Down at Your feet  
And anytime that I don't know  
What to do  
I will cast all my cares upon You**

#### **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Growing in faith and discipleship, we give thanks for God's merciful compassion as we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

*A brief silence.*

Empowering God, you call your church to boldly proclaim your day of salvation. Bring unity to the faithful and provide opportunities for collaboration as we bring your good news to the world. Let the youth of our churches hear your love for them *as they gather in Houston this coming week*. Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Creating God, you call forth life from the swirling waters of chaos, and you pour out water that nourishes the earth. Send forth ample rain for crops to flourish. Speak peace wherever homes, towns, businesses, and lands are damaged by hurricanes, floods, and tropical storms. Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Powerful God, come to the aid of all nations and leaders who fear storms of conflict, violence, or injustice. Raise up advocates and peacemakers to speak truth and hope into the world. Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Saving God, grant endurance and comfort to all who suffer affliction, hardship, hunger, violence, or sleepless nights of pain or anxiety. Give your promise of healing to all who long for salvation *especially Klaire, Kay*, and for those we name before you aloud or silently in our hearts (pause for 10 seconds). Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Covenant God, you call us by name and claim us as your own. We pray for those who prepare for baptism, those who have recently been baptized, and all who are called by baptism into lives of proclamation and service. Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Eternal God, we give thanks for all the saints who have commended themselves to you in every way and who have endured in faith *especially John the Baptist*. Bring us at last to the acceptable time of salvation for all creation. Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Gracious God, we lift to you these prayers and the prayers of our hearts, trusting in your everlasting love and mercy, through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen!**

**\*SHARING OF THE PEACE**

☞ *The peace of Christ be with you always.*

☞ **And also with you!**

**OFFERTORY SPECIAL MUSIC**

***“His Eye is On the Sparrow”***

arr. Mark Hayes

Jeremy Howe

**\*OFFERTORY RESPONSE**

***“Now the Feast and Celebration”***

**ELW 167**

**Now the feast and celebration,  
all of creation sings for joy**

to the God of life and love and freedom;  
praise and glory forevermore!

**\*OFFERING PRAYER**

**P** *Merciful God,*

**C** **you open wide your hand and satisfy the need of every living thing. You have set this feast before us. Open our hands to receive it. Open our hearts to embrace it. Open our lives to live it. We pray this through Christ our Lord. Amen!**

**\*DIALOGUE**

**P** *The Lord be with you.*

**C** **And also with you.**

**P** *Lift up your hearts.*

**C** **We lift them to the Lord.**

**P** *Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.*

**C** **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

**\*PREFACE**

**P** *It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,  
that we should at all times and in all places  
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,  
through our Savior Jesus Christ;  
who on this day overcame death and the grave,  
and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.  
And so, with all the choirs of angels,  
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,  
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:*

**\*HOLY, HOLY, HOLY**

**Holy, Holy, Holy**

**Lord God of hosts.**

**Heaven and earth**

**are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna, hosanna,**

**hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes**

**in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna, hosanna,**

**hosanna in the highest.**

### **\*THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

**P** *In the night in which he was betrayed,  
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;  
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.*

*Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,  
and gave it for all to drink, saying:  
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,  
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.*

### **\*LORD'S PRAYER**

**P** *Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.*

**G** **Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those  
who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours,  
now and forever. Amen!**

### **\*INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

**P** *Come, let us eat, for now the feast is spread.*

### **\*BLESSING**

**P** *The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and  
keep you in his grace.*

**G** **Amen!**

### **\*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

**P** *Jesus Christ, host of this meal,*

**G** **you have given us not only this bread and cup, but your very self, that we may feast on**

**your great love. Filled again by these signs of your grace, may we hunger for your reign of justice, may we thirst for your way of peace, for you are Lord forevermore. Amen!**

**\*BENEDICTION**

**P** *May God, whose power working in us  
can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine,  
grant you the gifts of faith and hope.  
Almighty God, Father,  $\mp$  Son, and Holy Spirit,  
bless you now and forever.*

**C** **Amen!**

**\*SENDING SONG**

***“Living in Canaan Now”***  
Jeremy Howe and Donovan Jones

Bill & Gloria Gaither